

from young leafy shoots of the tree, *Guazuma tomentosa* Kth. So far as can be ascertained from collections of the adults only, it would thus appear that this is a highly polyphagous species.

I found it at Soledad only during February and March, but Dr. Salt took it there on 20th June, and at San Nicolas (Habana) on 15th April.

BIOLOGICAL NOTES ON *NEMERITIS CANESCENS*
(GRAV.) (ICHNEUMONIDÆ).

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On September 7, 1926 at Lowell, Massachusetts, in a grain and feed store heavily infested with *Ephestia kuehniella* Zeller and *Plodia interpunctella* Hb. there were observed a large number of females of *Nemeritis canescens* (Grav.) No males were to be found.

Six of these wasps were set with *Ephestia* larvæ and descendants were reared during the winter through six generations. Females only were produced totalling 3953. Since all of these except the 415 of the first generation were reared from bred virgins and since no males could be found among the numerous specimens in the store, the species appears to be almost or quite thelytokous.

Dissection showed that many eggs may be laid within the tissues of one caterpillar although only one maggot develops. The caterpillar is not paralyzed but feeds and grows normally and usually spins a cocoon. Ordinarily the full-grown maggot ruptures the skin of the caterpillar and spins its own brownish cocoon within the white silken tube of the latter. Not infrequently, however, the caterpillar is able to form a chrysalis in which case its chitinous covering left intact encloses the cocoon and pupa of the wasp. Adult wasps may be kept alive for several days if fed on honey and water.

There have been bred from single females from five to 43 offspring, but it is very likely that this number might be con-